

# Meet the new commander

## Col. Steve Meigs

### 48th Medical Group commander

**Hometown:** North Augusta, S.C.

**Time in service:** 21.5 years

**Recent career history:** Before coming to RAF Lakenheath, I was the commander, 16th Medical Group, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

**Leadership philosophy:** Lead from the front. Take care of your people and they will take care of the mission. Never take yourself too seriously – it's OK to have fun.

**Short-term goals:** Lose nine pounds.

**Personal information:** I have a daughter, Amanda, who will enter her third year at the University of Alabama this fall.

**Hobbies:** Tennis and cooking.

**How do you fulfill core values?** I try my best to live them everyday, no matter where I am, or what I'm doing.

**What is the most exciting thing that has happened to you during your Air Force career?** Just before I left Hurlburt Field, I had the opportunity to have lunch with John Levitow; it was quite an honor to spend time with someone who is such a big part of our heritage – he is a real hero and a great advocate for our people, especially the enlisted corps.

**Who is your favorite leader in history and why?** Gen. George S. Patton Jr. While much of General Patton's legend stems from his flamboyant style, his real success in leadership was based on

his deep commitment to his people, both from a standpoint of ensuring they were prepared to accomplish the mission mentally and physically, and in terms of making sure they understood he cared about their well-being. I have always tried to keep that lesson in mind.

**What is your philosophy of life and why?** My parents taught me to treat everyone with respect and dignity, in keeping with the "do unto others" maxim.

**Who is your role model and why?** I've

never had a single role model, but I have had the opportunity to work for and with a number of people whose behaviors/characteristics I have chosen to emulate because of the positive impact they had on me.

**What do you like best about the Air Force?** The privilege of working with a magnificently talented and supremely dedicated team of professionals every day.



Photo by SSgt. Scott Davis